

WINCHESTER TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 27, 2009

The regular August monthly meeting of the Winchester Tree Commission was held on Thursday, August 27, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building at City Yards.

Mr. Farris, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Farris made a suggestion to postpone approval of the July minutes until the September meeting due to a lack of quorum.

Members present: Mr. T'ai Roulston, Mr. Patrick Farris and Ms. Kate Christen

Members absent: Ms. Chris Scully, Ms. Mary Stickley and Ms. Allison Major

Staff present: Clint Cantrell, Tim Stern and Tom Hoy

Guests present: Ms. Cheryl Crowell

Guests Comments: Ms. Crowell stated that in the 800 block of S. Washington Street there are a couple of trees that are very dangerous. Ms. Crowell stated that the trees have a green crown but there is a significant amount of dead wood in the stem. Ms. Crowell stated that some of the dead wood is falling off onto the sidewalks. Ms. Crowell stated that there is one tree that has a lot of stag horning on the crown and it is in very bad shape. Ms. Crowell stated that she is present to recommend that the Tree Commission take a look at these trees and the entire block would be a good project for tree planting if the dead trees were removed. Ms. Crowell stated that there are a couple of trees in that block that don't need to be removed. Ms. Crowell stated that most of the dying trees are on the East side of the street. Tom Hoy asked Ms. Crowell if she would like to meet Tim Stern so that she could show him the trees. Ms. Crowell stated that she would be happy to. Mr. Farris stated that Tim Stern can add trees to the agenda for the next Tree Commission meeting after he meets Ms. Crowell to look at them. Ms. Crowell stated that she is a member of the Shenandoah University Landscape Committee. Ms. Crowell stated that they want to coordinate with the Tree Commission and the City with the Green Circle Project. Ms. Crowell stated that they will probably have some projects as well.

Old Business:

1) Tree Canopy Goals and Plan: Presentation to City Council

Mr. Farris stated that the Council's committee will be meeting on September 1, 2009. Mr. Farris stated that the committee will vote on sending the Tree Commission's recommendations to City Council on September 8, 2009. Mr. Farris stated that he and Mr. Jim Lawrence of the Natural Resources Advisory Board are staying in touch with Council members so that the plan is voted for

adoption. Tom Hoy stated that the plan was on the committees agenda for August but the meeting was cancelled due to the National Night Out.

New Business:

1) Discussion of Tree Removal/Trimming requests:

206 S. Loudoun Street (on corner)

Mr. Roulston made a motion to deny removal of the tree located at 206 S. Loudoun Street and recommended installing rubber sidewalk around the tree; seconded by Ms. Christen, consensus decision upheld.

345 Shawnee Avenue

Mr. Farris made a motion to trim the tree located at 345 Shawnee Avenue and deny removal; seconded by Mr. Roulston, consensus approval.

427 Van Fossen Street

Mr. Farris made a motion to remove the tree located at 427 Van Fossen Street; seconded by Ms. Christen, consensus approval.

308 Green Street

Mr. Farris made a motion to deny removal of the tree located at 308 Green Street; seconded by Mr. Roulston, consensus approval.

424 S. Loudoun Street

Mr. Farris made a motion to remove the tree located at 424 S. Loudoun Street; seconded by Ms. Christen, consensus approval.

420 Briarmont Drive

Mr. Roulston made a motion to remove the tree located at 420 Briarmont Drive; seconded by Mr. Farris, consensus approval.

1736 Brandon Drive

Mr. Farris made a motion to remove the tree located at 1736 Brandon Drive; seconded by Ms. Christen, consensus approval.

318 Mosby Street

Mr. Farris made a motion to remove the tree located at 318 Mosby Street; seconded by Mr. Roulston, consensus approval.

1015 S. Cameron Street

Mr. Farris made a motion to remove the tree located at 1015 S. Cameron Street; motion was withdrawn. Mr. Roulston made a motion to deny removal of the tree located at 1015 S. Cameron Street; seconded by Ms. Christen, consensus approval.

2) Construction of Tree Commission meeting and business protocol:

Mr. Farris stated that he will be working on this with staff and others when there is more free time available, possibly in the winter when the Tree Commission isn't reviewing so many trees. Mr. Farris stated that for now it is on hold but he is serious about completing it.

3) Tree planting species suggestions for Two-way project:

Mr. Farris stated that he will ask Tom Hoy to direct staff to get an electronic version of the tree well map for the two-way project and email it to all of the Tree Commission members so that they can make comments. Mr. Farris stated that this would give the members the opportunity to look at the results as a group during the September meeting. Mr. Roulston stated that he thinks the members should look at the entire downtown area when making a species planting decision. Mr. Farris stated that the Tree Commission could conduct a work session and walk the project area to determine tree species planting recommendations.

Comments from Commission Members:

- 1) Mr. Farris stated that there should be a list of tree planting species suggestions to submit to Perry Eisenach for the two-way project. Mr. Farris added this to new business.
- 2) Ms. Christen stated that occasionally she is seeing manhole covers propped up against city trees in the construction area. Mr. Farris stated that he has made calls requesting that construction equipment not be parked near trees because it is crushing the root ball. Mr. Farris stated that he would ask Tom Hoy to direct staff to make a brief overview while they are doing business to make sure construction doesn't impede the health of existing trees.
- 3) Mr. Roulston asked if it would be possible to get a copy of the staff evaluation of removal/trim requests prior to the meetings. Mr. Roulston stated that two days prior would be fine. Tim stated that he would get it to them in that time frame.

Comments from City Staff:

- 1) Tim Stern submitted the staff report for the month of July. Tim stated that a contractor has been doing trimmings and removals but they won't be reflected in the staff report until August.

Adjourn:

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Farris adjourned the meeting.

**CITY OF WINCHESTER
TREE COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT FOR JULY 2009
SUBMITTED AUGUST 27, 2009**

This report is a summary of contractor expenses and an activity listing of trimmings, plantings, removals and stump grindings for the month of July 2009.

**EXPENSES REPORT
(Billings for July 2009)**

CONTRACTOR TRIMMINGS:	CONTRACTOR PLANTINGS:	CONTRACTOR REMOVALS:	TOTAL:
\$ 0	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0

ACTIVITY REPORT

TRIMMING:	PLANTINGS:	REMOVALS:	STUMP GRINDING:
Corner W. Monmouth St and Briarmont Dr.		725 Van Fossen St.	
222 W. Cecil St.			
256 Shawnee Ave.			
613 Van Fossen St.			
120 W. Cork St.			
Grounds of the JJC. (x10)			
Corner Boscawen St. and Kent St.			
216 Cedermeade Ave. (x2)			
Pleasant Valley Rd. near Martin's (x4)			
Alley beside Church of Good Shepard on Berryville Ave. (x5)			
124 E. Clifford St.			
Corner Cameron St. and Germain St.			
118 Peyton St.			
30 Trees	0 trees	1 tree	0 stumps

Note: The Trim/Removal/Stump Grinding job that our contractor had been working on will show up on next months Staff Report.